



TED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFIC

Applicants:

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on February 26, 2002.

> Bernard P. Friedrichsen (Name of applicant, assignee

or Registered Representative)

(Signature)

February 26, 2002

(Date of Signature)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 and presented below is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98.

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REMARKS

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that this document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37

C.F.R. §1.56. Patentee does not waive any right to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present reexamination patent.

Applicants believe that this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to the mailing of an Office Action on the merits as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Therefore, Applicants believe that no fee is due for this filing. In the event that an Office Action on the merits has been mailed, then Applicants submit this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2). Should any fee be due, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees required for this filing to deposit account no. 06-1447. For the purpose of charging said deposit account, a duplicate of this document is submitted herewith.

It is requested that the foregoing documents be considered during examination of the accompanying application and be made of record therein.

Respectfully Submitted,

February 26, 2002

Date

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